Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, There are more than 1.5 million individuals living in 16,000 nursing homes and 1 million individuals living in 50,000 board and care/assisted living facilities in the United States; and,

Whereas, There are 6,840 individuals living in 109 nursing homes and 4,442 individuals living in 163 assisted living centers in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The Federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy; and,

Whereas, All residents should be aware of their rights so they may be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and,

Whereas, We wish to honor and celebrate the citizens of South Dakota to recognize their rich individuality and reaffirm their right to vote and participate politically, including the right to have a say in their care; and,

Whereas, Individuals and groups across the country will be celebrating Residents' Rights Month with the theme – My Vote Matters – to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy, and resident-centered decision-making:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as

LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS' RIGHTS MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, and this Twentieth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State